

**Pam Grubaugh-Littig - AmWest Exploration Company**

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**From:** "Pappas, Johnny (WC) 4741" <jpappas@rag-american.com>  
**To:** "nrogm.pgrubaug@state.ut.us" <nrogm.pgrubaug@state.ut.us>  
**Date:** 09/13/2001 12:46 PM  
**Subject:** AmWest Exploration Company

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Pam,

Attached is a letter notifying the Division that AmWest Exploration is the MSHA operator during the mine recovery operations. This is done as a means of transferring liability from PMC to AmWest. If the recovery operations are successful and satisfactory to AmWest, then the proper documents will be finalized that will facilitate the property to AmWest. Work on transferring the SMCRA Permit will begin once AmWest decides.

I know that the legal information in our Permit addresses the MSHA operator as PMC. The ID number did not change only the interim operator. If the recovery operations are unsuccessful and/or unsatisfactory then the mine will be resealed and the MSHA operator will be transferred back to PMC and PMC will in all likelihood commence planning for reclamation of the Willow Creek Mine.

Thanks,

Johnny

<<JP010903.WPD>>

*Incoming*  
*C/007/038*

September 13, 2001

Ms. Pamela Grubaugh-Littig  
Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining  
1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210  
P.O. Box 145801  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

Re: AmWest Exploration Company, MSHA ID-42-02113, Willow Creek Mine,  
C/007/038, Carbon County, Utah

Dear Ms. Grubaugh-Littig:

Plateau Mining Corporation (PMC) is notifying the Division that AmWest Exploration Company (AEC) is the MSHA operator of the Willow Creek Mine for the mine recovery operation. PMC is still the operator of the Willow Creek Mine for Permit C/007/038.

Any change in the operator for Permit C/007/038 will be in accordance with the Utah R645 Coal Rules. The recovery of the Willow Creek Mine is the first step of many before a decision is made to reopen the mine and transfer Permit C/007/038 to AEC.

The Division will be kept informed as the recovery operations progress. If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at (435) 472-4741.

Sincerely,

Johnny Pappas  
Sr. Environmental Engineer

File: Willow Creek Mine - Recovery  
Chrono: JP010903.ltr